

1st BCT Clearing Sadr City of Explosives

By Spc. Jan Critchfield
122nd MPAD

CAMP PATRIOT, Baghdad -- As a part of the 1st Cavalry Division's efforts to secure unstable Sadr City neighborhoods, Soldiers of the 1st Brigade Combat Team "Ironhorse" are working non-stop to clear improvised explosive devices that obstruct a planned \$360 million of U.S.-funded infrastructure projects in the area.

In an effort to make the streets safer for both Soldiers and civilians, the 766th Ordnance Company (Explosive Ordnance Disposal), an Army unit from Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., and the 20th Engineer Battalion has been working together to reduce the IED threat in eastern Baghdad.

Although some insurgent cells that had operated in the area removed IEDs as outlined in a recent agreement with the Iraqi government, the devices continue to be found by military patrols and Iraqi Security Forces, with hundreds potentially hidden beneath the asphalt.

"Some of the locals in the area did report that the day before [people in trucks] had gone in and removed some of the IEDs," said Capt. Marc



By Spc. Jan Critchfield, 122nd MPAD

A Soldier with the 766th Ordnance Company (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) remotely detonates a potential IED in eastern Baghdad while Soldiers of the 20th Engineer Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, secure the area.

Distefano, commander of Company A, 20th Engineers during an IED disposal mission. "Still, there are some IEDs that are ... too dangerous for civilians to remove."

An October Iraqi government-run weapons buyback program gave insurgent groups in Sadr City the opportunity

Continued on Page 5



By Pfc. Brian Schroeder, 10th Mtn. Div. Public Affairs

A local man signs for his share of seed at the seed distribution event located at the Ziggurat near Aqar Quf, west of Baghdad. Over 184 tons of seed was distributed to local farmers through their neighborhood council.

Seeds Sprout Successful Future for Iraqi Farmers

By Pfc. Brian Schroeder
10th Mtn. Div. Public Affairs

BAGHDAD -- In 1400 B.C., Mesopotamians erected a massive Ziggurat, similar to a pyramid, in the modern day town of Aqar Quf, west of Baghdad. This massive, 150-foot structure was built as a temple for the ancient civilization to worship their gods, who, they believed, brought growth and prosperity to the land.

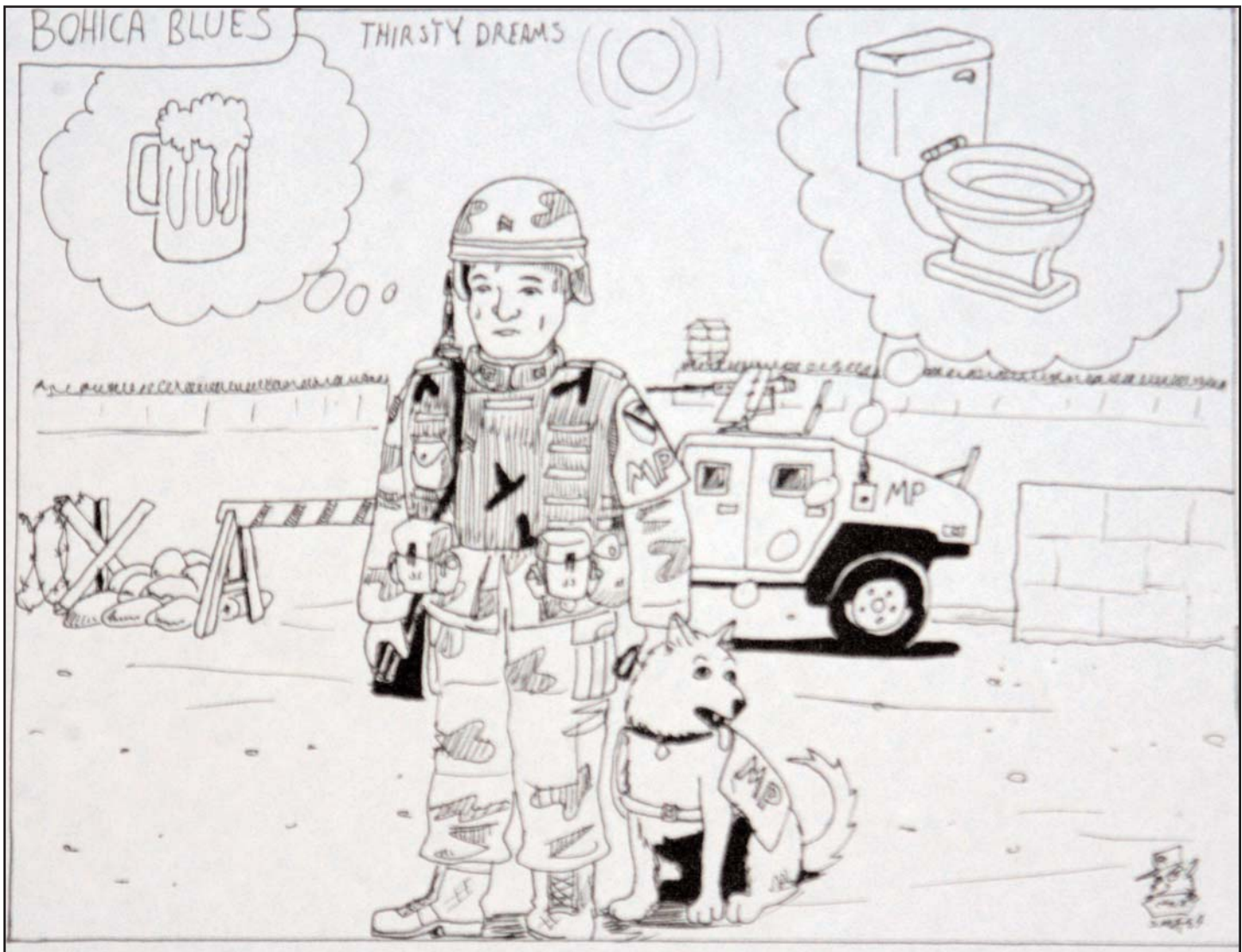
Thousands of years later, the Ziggurat serves as a distribution center for local farmers to pick up donated bags of seed to help make their lands bountiful and prosperous.

Over 184 tons of wheat seed was distributed Oct. 27 to more than 350 local farmers through the Aqar Quf Nahia, which is an area rural neighborhood council, similar to county governments in the United States.

Maj. Carrie Acree, a 443rd Civil Affairs Battalion team leader said that rather than using military boundaries to distribute the seed, multinational forces used Iraqi boundaries for distribution.

"Rather than distribute the seed through the military, we had the Nahia distribute the

Continued on Page 5



By Staff Sgt. Christopher Grant, 411th Engineer Battalion

Bohica Blues cartoons are drawn by Staff Sgt. Christopher Grant, of the 411th Engineer Battalion from Boise, Idaho. His battalion is attached to the 1st Cavalry Division in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II. Grant says he draws cartoons as a way to present his and his Soldiers' opinions to the world. His work is also displayed at the the Antelope (Engineer) dining facility on Camp Al-Tahreer.

Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases

See you soon.
ilaal liqaa.

Saturday

High: 83
Low: 62



Sunday

High: 81
Low: 60



Monday

High: 81
Low: 61



Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWO)

Commanding General: Maj. Gen. Peter Chiarelli

Public Affairs Officer: Lt. Col. James Hutton

122nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment Cmdr.: Maj. John Fuhrman

Public Affairs Supervisor: Master Sgt. Dave Larsen

1st Sgt. 122nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment: 1st Sgt. William Kuhns

Editor: Spc. Marie Whitney

Staff Writers: Sgt. 1st Class Tony Sailer, Staff Sgt. Susan German, Staff Sgt. Merrion LaSonde, Sgt. Dan Purcell, Sgt. Christina Rockhill, Cpl.

Benjamin Cossel, Cpl. Bill Putnam, Spc. Jan Critchfield, Spc. Andy Miller, Spc. Erik LeDrew, Spc. Al Barrus, Pfc. Brian Schroeder, Pfc. Matthew McLaughlin.

The Daily Charge is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of **The Daily Charge** are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the 1st Cavalry Division. All editorial content of **The Daily Charge** is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the 1st Cavalry Division Public Affairs Office.

News Notes

Never Too Old To Start a Business

VIENNA, Austria (AP) -- Austrian authorities said Wednesday they busted a group of older men dubbed the "Grandpa Gang" who allegedly were involved in selling cocaine. An undisclosed number of suspects ranging in age from 55 to 70 were detained by police on suspicion of involvement in the ring, including the alleged leader, a 58-year-old man whose name was not released, Vienna police said in a statement. Police arrested the suspects in a raid on a penthouse apartment in downtown Vienna, where they also seized cocaine with an estimated street value of more than \$260,000.

How to Make a Grown Man Cry

CHILHOWIE, Va. (AP) -- Fourteen cars of an 83-car Norfolk Southern train derailed near an industrial park, leaving the area smelling like a brewery Thursday. About 20,000 gallons of beer leaked from three cars of the Roanoke-bound train, said railway spokesman Robin Chapman. No one was injured when the cars skipped the tracks about 10:30 p.m. Wednesday, Chapman said. Investigating officers said the leak did not contaminate any nearby water sources nor affect any highways. "Everything was contained away from the creek," said Jack Tolbert Jr. of the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.



By Pfc. Brian Schroeder, 10th Mtn. Div. Public Affairs

Americans of all Ages Show Honor

SEATTLE -- Six-year-old Chandler Radley, from Bothell, walks down Stewart Street in downtown Seattle as part of the 2004 Veterans Day parade from the Westin Hotel to The Benaroya Hall Garden of Remembrance. Behind Chandler is the Navy Marching Band.

World War II Veterans Group to Disband Group After Parade

AUSTIN, Texas (*Austin American-Statesman*) -- For 16 years, they have met once a month to tell the old stories again and sit with others of their dwindling number who remember the "forgotten war," now six decades behind them.

For the past seven years, they have pulled out the old uniforms and decorations, put them on aging bodies and marched up Congress Avenue with other World War II veterans in the annual Veterans Day parade.

Many of them survived harrowing flights over the Himalayas at nearly impossible altitudes to deliver supplies to Chinese troops battling the Japanese.

But this parade will be the last march for the Central Texas veterans who fought in the "CBI" - World War II's China-Burma-India theater, so little known that it is called the "forgotten war."

Age and death have reduced their number. The 16 remaining members are shutting down their local CBI group after this parade. The national organization also is folding after a final reunion next year.

"I'm looking forward to the parade with great anticipation and trepidation," said Austinite J.W. Studak, 82. "I'm going to lose my squadron identity. It's like the CBI name brings us together."

Now, with World War II veterans dying at a rate of 1,100 a day by some estimates, the number of CBI members nationally has dwindled to fewer than 4,500, said Ken Ruff, the finance officer for the CBI Veterans Association. Bashes are disbanding across the country, he said.

"We're losing them in droves," Ruff said in a telephone interview from his Orlando, Fla. home. "Every day we have another notification of another deceased member."

The Longhorn basha, which started with a



Austin American-Statesman

World War II veterans Marvin Kanter, left, and George Pederson are among the 16 remaining members of the Longhorn basha of the China-Burma-India Veterans Association.

dozen members in 1988, grew to 44 at its peak.

"When it's the end, it's one sad thing," Kanter said, choking back the tears. "My wife and I visited the (National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific) in Hawaii and two of my friends . . . some of them were 19 when they died - and they still are."

Santana Given Cy Young Award Unanimously

NEW YORK (AP) -- As joyous fans celebrated by honking car horns in Caracas, Johan Santana sounded overwhelmed. He became the first Venezuelan to win a Cy Young Award, and not only that, he was a unanimous choice.

"This is like a dream come true," he said after earning the American League honor Thursday. "I'm a little surprised that I ended up the season where I ended up the season."

The Minnesota Twins' left-hander received all 28 first-place votes in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America.

Santana, who went 20-6 and led the AL with a 2.61 ERA and 265 strikeouts, became the first unanimous Cy Young winner since Arizona's Randy Johnson two years ago and the first in the AL since Boston's Pedro Martinez in 2000. He is the 18th unanimous winner overall, the seventh in the AL.

"I'm surprised this has been a unanimous decision," Santana said. "I thought this was going to be a real tough race."

Santana traveled Thursday morning from his hometown of Tovar Merida to Caracas. President Hugo Chavez planned to congratulate him Friday.

"It's on national TV," Santana said. "Hopefully, in a couple of hours I'll be addressing the country and letting them know how I feel."

After helping lead Minnesota to his third straight AL Central title, he beat the Yankees in the opener of their first-round playoff series and,



AP

Minnesota Twins pitcher Johan Santana winds up in the sixth inning against the Chicago White Sox Sept. 14 in Minneapolis. Santana was a unanimous choice for the American League Cy Young Award Thursday.

pitching on three days' rest, left Game 4 with a 5-1 lead before New York rallied against the Twins' bullpen.

Dallas Ends Miami's 14-game Winning Streak

MIAMI (AP) -- Instead of making a serious run at acquiring Shaquille O'Neal over the summer, the Dallas Mavericks built their team around Dirk Nowitzki.

The logic couldn't be faulted Thursday, when Nowitzki helped hand what was the NBA's last unbeaten team its first loss of the season.

Nowitzki had 41 points, two off his career high, and Marquis Daniels added 22 in Dallas' 113-93 win over Miami that ended the Heat's franchise-record 14-game home win streak.

"We had a great night," Nowitzki said. "Everybody was shooting well, and it didn't matter from where they shot it. We did a lot of things right. We shot the ball well, we drove to the basket and got to the foul line."

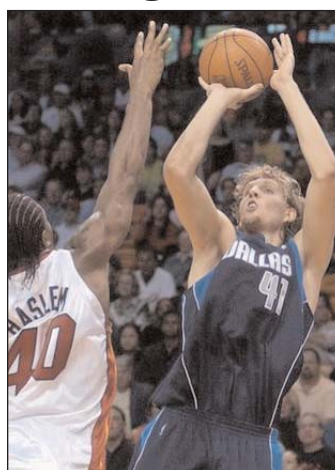
Nowitzki shot 12-of-24 from the floor, 4-for-7 from

3-point range, 13-for-13 from the line and added 10 rebounds for Dallas (5-1).

"I'm wondering how he missed those 12 shots. ... He was really on," said Mavs owner Mark Cuban, who watched from behind the Dallas bench.

O'Neal had 22 points - giving him 22,002 for his career - and 10 rebounds for the Heat (4-1). Dwyane Wade added 20 points, eight rebounds and five assists before spraining his left ankle with 7:07 left. X-rays were negative, and Wade said he believed the injury was minor.

"We had a lot of defensive lapses and they shot the ball well," O'Neal said. "Most of the shots in the first half were wide-open jumpers. ... We got into a hole, and I felt we had a couple opportunities to get out of the hole but they shot



AP

Dallas Mavericks' Dirk Nowitzki (41) prepares to score over Miami Heat's Udonis Haslem (40) in the fourth quarter Thursday in Miami. The Mavericks won 113-93.

the ball well. Dirk had a hell of a game. He's a great player."

In Brief

Grant Says He is 'Semiretired'

LONDON (AP) -- Hugh Grant says he's lost interest



in acting and is heading into retirement. Grant, who plays heart-throb Daniel Cleaver in "Bridget

Jones: The Edge of Reason," was quoted Thursday by the Evening Standard's Metro magazine as saying film acting is a "miserable experience." "It's so long and boring and so difficult to get right," Grant said. "I am sort of semiretired," he said. "I keep thinking I'm going to write a brilliant script." The 44-year-old actor told the magazine he didn't feel pressure to settle down.

Bono Not Ready for Hall of Fame

LONDON (Reuters) -- Bono, lead singer of Irish rock band U2, was handed an award inducting him into the UK Music Hall of Fame. Minutes later the reluctant recipient joked that he was tempted to hand it back. After an evening of glamour and gloss Thursday to launch the inaugural awards chosen by the British public, the frontman quipped: "I want to go and kill myself now." "I really didn't want to come," he told Reuters Television. "Only respect for the people who were running the show has me here. I hate the idea of being in the UK Hall of Fame to be honest with you ... We don't want to be in any Hall of Fame until we're retired or dead."



By Spc. Jan Critchfield, 122nd MPAD

A Soldier of the 766th Ordnance Company (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) helps deploy a robot carrying an explosive charge used to destroy a potential IED during an IED disposal mission in eastern Baghdad.

1BCT Soldiers Use Technology to Battle Insurgents

Continued from Page 1

to disarm. Hundreds of explosives, mines and artillery shells used to make IEDs were recovered, which the 766th then disposed of at a safe location. Although the program was largely successful, IEDs that have already been planted still remain a threat.

Making the job of finding IEDs a little bit easier, local residents regularly tell 1st BCT patrols of explosives that have been installed near their homes. Such intelligence, combined with other sources, is then compiled into a list of potential 'targets' for the 766th and the 20th to neutralize during daily missions.

"It's promising to see that people realize we're here to help," Distefano said.

Improvements to the living conditions of other areas of Baghdad have often correlated with a decrease in insurgent activity, making clearing IEDs in Sadr City an essential step towards stability in the region.

(Below) As troopers from the Scout Platoon, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 161st Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, wait in the front leaning rest position, Sgt. 1st Class Tracy Henrikson, their platoon sergeant attaches gold spurs to their heels during an awards ceremony at Camp Prosperity Nov. 6.



By Staff Sgt. Susan German, 122nd MPAD

(Above) Spokane, Wash. native Staff Sgt. Chris Haag, Scout Platoon, 1-161 Inf. Headquarters Company, ties a yellow ascot around the neck of fellow scout Cpl. Brent Nice, from Pullman, Wash.

443rd CA Helps Distribution of Tons of Wheat to Iraqis

Continued from Page 1

seed," Acree said. "Want to legitimize the Iraqi government and let the Iraqi people know their government is working for them."

The Aqar Quf Nahia determined the amount of seed distributed to each farmer would be based on the number donoums, or area of land equivalent to 24.7 acres, each farmer has. Acree said it was gratifying to see the nahia and local farmers work together.

"The nahia worked together as a team and worked well with the Iraqi farmers," she said. "They were fair in their distribution. It was nice to see the large turn out, which means the nahia called everybody they could, and not just their friends, to come out and receive the seed."

Acree said the Aqar Quf area has not had a multinational force civil affairs team helping to improve their way of life until now. She said the area is due to receive thousands of dollars in civil affairs projects in the near future.

"Most of area is rural and agriculture driven and we will be trying to get some of those areas potable water," she said. "Most



By Pfc. Brian Schroeder, 10th Mtn. Div. Public Affairs

Locals, from the Aqar Quf area, unload a truck full of wheat seed. Over 350 farmers in the area received 184 tons of wheat seed through the Aqar Quf neighborhood council.

villages do not have potable water, water to their villages or a centralized water treatment facility. We currently have four water treatment facilities in the works for the area."

Mesopotamia, which means, "land between the rivers," once prospered and thrived on agriculture. Multinational force civil affairs efforts in the area hope to assist the area prosper once again.